

Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 canceled

Claim 4 (previously presented): A laminate for sealing nozzles on print cartridges, comprising:

a moisture retardant base film; and

a hot-melt layer adhesively bonded thereto, the laminate seals the print cartridge nozzles prior to use,

wherein the laminate additionally contacts and seals electrical contacts and leads on print cartridges against corrosion.

Claim 5 (original): A laminate for sealing print cartridges, comprising:

a non-woven thin base film having crevices therein; and

a moisture retardant hot-melt layer, said hot-melt flows into the crevices in the base film and mechanically bonds the film and hot-melt layer together.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A print cartridge with sealed nozzles, comprising:

a print cartridge having nozzles through which ink is jetted; and

a hot-melt layer adhesively bonded to the print cartridge and sealing the nozzles, wherein the hot-melt layer bonds the print cartridge to a package containing the print cartridge.

Claim 7 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the print cartridge contains ink; the nozzles are contained in an orifice plate on the print cartridge; and the hotmelt prevents ink from escaping from the print cartridge, prevents ink from attacking materials around the orifice plate, and provides a moisture barrier against corrosion.

Claim 8 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the print cartridge has electrical contacts and leads mounted thereon which are also sealed by the hot-melt.

Claim 9 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the hot-melt is adhesively bonded to a film having an adhesion with the hot-melt that is greater than the adhesion between the hot-melt and the print cartridge.

Claim 10 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the hot-melt layer is laminated with a moisture retardant base film.

Claim 11 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 where in the hot-melt is heat staked to a moisture retardant pouch material.

Claim 12 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 where in the hot-melt is heat staked to a cardboard sleeve.

Claim 13 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein the hot-melt is block coated on heat stakable pouch material.

Claim 14 (original): The print cartridge of claim 6 wherein pouch material is wrapped around the print cartridge and wherein the hot-melt layer is one layer of a laminate, said laminate having a free-end that is captured in the pouch material.

Claim 15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (previously presented): A process for sealing a print cartridge having nozzles that jet ink, comprising:

- releasably capturing a hot-melt moisture retardant tape;
- cutting the tape to size;
- positioning the cut tape over the nozzles; and heat staking the tape over the nozzles,
- wherein the tape has a free end and capturing the free end of the tape in pouch material and flow wrapping the pouch material around the print cartridge.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A process for sealing a print cartridge having nozzles that jet ink, comprising:

- releasably capturing a hot-melt moisture retardant tape;
- cutting the tape to size;
- positioning the cut tape over the nozzles; and heat staking the tape over the nozzles,
- wherein the print cartridge has electrical contacts and leads and further including positioning the cut tape over the electrical contacts and leads as well as the nozzles and heat staking the tape over and in contact with the electrical contacts and leads as well as the nozzles.

Claims 18 and 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (original): A process for sealing a print cartridge having nozzles that jet ink, comprising:

- block coating heat stakable pouch material with hotmelt;
- positioning the pouch material over the nozzles;
- heat staking the block coated hot-melt to the nozzles; and
- flow wrapping the pouch material around the print cartridge.

Claim 21 (original): The process of claim 20 wherein the print cartridge has electrical contacts and leads and further including:

- positioning the block coated hot-melt over the electrical contacts and leads as well as the nozzles; and
- heat staking the block coated hot-melt over the electrical contacts and leads.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The laminate of claim 4, wherein the base film is a polyethylene terephthalate film coated with an ethylene acid copolymer resin.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The laminate of claim 4, wherein the base film is an oriented propylene film.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The laminate of claim 4, wherein the base film is a spunbonded olefin film.

Claim 25 (new): A print cartridge system, comprising:
a print cartridge including nozzles through which ink is jetted;
a seal attached to the print cartridge and disposed over the nozzles, the seal being adhesively attached to the print cartridge and forming a moisture impermeable barrier over each nozzle preventing flow of ink and moisture out of each nozzle.

Claim 26 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 25, wherein the seal comprises a hot melt adhesive layer adhesively attached to the print cartridge and forming a barrier over each nozzle preventing flow of ink out of each nozzle.

Claim 27 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 26, wherein the hot melt adhesive layer is moisture retardant and forms a moisture impenetrable barrier over each nozzle preventing flow of ink and moisture out of each of the nozzles.

Claim 28 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 27, wherein the hot melt adhesive layer is a moisture retardant synthetic rubber hot melt adhesive layer.

Claim 29 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 27, wherein the seal further comprises a non-woven base film attached to the hot melt adhesive layer.

Claim 30 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 29, wherein the non-woven base film has crevices and the hot melt adhesive layer includes hot melt adhesive material disposed in the crevices of the non-woven base film.

Claim 31 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 29, wherein the non-woven base film is a spunbonded olefin film.

Claim 32 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 26, wherein the seal further comprises a moisture retardant base film disposed over the hot melt adhesive layer.

Claim 33 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the hot melt adhesive layer is a polyolefin layer.

Claim 34 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the hot melt adhesive layer is a synthetic elastomeric material.

Claim 35 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the hot melt adhesive layer is an ethyl vinyl acetate (EVA) hot melt adhesive layer.

Claim 36 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the moisture retardant base film is adhesively attached to the hot melt adhesive layer.

Claim 37 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the base film is a moisture retardant polyolefin film.

Claim 38 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 37, wherein the base film is a polypropylene film.

Claim 39 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 37, wherein the base film is a polyethylene film.

Claim 40 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the base film is a polyethylene terephthalate film and the hot melt adhesive layer is an ethylene acid copolymer resin coated on the base film.

Claim 41 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the base film forms a sealed pouch enclosing the print cartridge.

Claim 42 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 32, wherein the base film comprises multiple layers.

Claim 43 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 42, wherein the base film comprises a first film layer coated with a second film layer.

Claim 44 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 43, wherein the base film comprises a polyethylene terephthalate film coated with an ethylene acid copolymer resin, and the hot melt adhesive layer is an ethyl vinyl acetate (EVA) hot melt adhesive layer.

Claim 45 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 25, wherein the print cartridge includes electrical contacts and the seal forms a moisture impenetrable barrier over the electrical contacts.

Claim 46 (new): The print cartridge system of claim 25, wherein the print cartridge includes electrical leads and the seal forms a moisture impenetrable barrier over the electrical leads.